

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A method of synchronizing files between a central site and a plurality of remote  
2 sites comprising the steps of:

3           (a)    providing a list of files to the plurality of remote sites by the central site, prior  
4 to a callback time of the remote sites;

5           (b)    reporting which of the files are missing by each of the plurality of remote sites  
6 to the central site; and

7           (c)    determining within the central site which of the files needs to be sent to each of  
8 the plurality of remote sites.

1           2.     The method of claim 1 in which the providing step (a) utilizes a file system  
2 synchronization (FSS) helper application.

1           3.     The method of claim 1 in which the reporting step (b) utilizes a file system  
2 synchronization remote site operation mechanism.

1           4.     The method of claim 1 in which the determining step (c) utilizes an automated  
2 central site operation mechanism.

1           5.     The method of claim 1 wherein the list of files comprises a loadlist.  
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1           6.     The method of claim 5 wherein each of the files in the loadlist are date and time  
2 stamped.

1           7.     A system for synchronizing files comprising:  
2                 a central site, the central site including a file system synchronization (FSS)  
3 helper application and an automated central site operations (ACSO) mechanism for  
4 transmitting the list of files; and  
5                 at least one remote site, the at least one remote site including a file system  
6 synchronization remote operating mechanism (FSS RSO), wherein the FSS RSO mechanism  
7 creates a group of files it will need based upon the transmitted files.

1           8.     The system of claim 7 wherein the list of files comprises a loadlist.

1           9.     The system of claim 8 wherein each of the files in the loadlist are date stamped.

1           10.    The computer readable medium containing program instructions for  
2 synchronizing files between a central site and a plurality of remote sites, the program  
3 instructions for:

4                 (a)    providing a list of files to the plurality of remote sites by the central site, prior  
5 to a callback time of the remote sites;

6                 (b)    reporting which of the files are missing by each of the plurality of remote sites  
7 to the central site; and

8                 (c)    determining within the central site which of the files needs to be sent to each of

9 the plurality of remote sites.

1 11. The computer readable medium of claim 10 in which the providing step (a)  
2 utilizes a file system synchronization (FSS) helper application.

1 12. The computer readable medium of claim 10 in which the reporting step (b)  
2 utilizes a file system synchronization remote site operation mechanism.

1 13. The computer readable medium of claim 10 in which the determining step (c)  
2 utilizes an automated central site operation mechanism.

1 14. The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the list of files comprises a  
2 loadlist.

1 15. The computer readable medium of claim 10 wherein each of the files in the  
2 loadlist are date and time stamped.